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**ALLEN W. DULLES** will retire this year as Central Intelligence Agency head.

This was disclosed by White House Press Secretary Salinger, who said Dulles, 68, had been planning for some time to step down this year. Salinger declined comment on published reports that Fowler Hamilton, a Wall Street lawyer, would succeed Dulles.

Dulles, named to head the secret CIA by Eisenhower in 1953, has been criticized for the CIA's intelligence role in the abortive Cuban invasion in April. Kennedy recently set up a special board headed by retired Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor to investigate the nation's entire intelligence setup.